IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 3, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23 and 24 without prejudice or

disclaimer, and amend claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19 and 21 as follows:

1   1. (Currently Amended)   A network system, comprising:

2   at least one network unit having a variable Internet protocol (IP) address and unique

3   identification information;

4   a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server responsive to a request from

5   said at least one network unit for assigning said variable IP address to said at least one

6   network unit for a predetermined period of time; and

7   an agent server including a communication unit for receiving said unique

8   identification information and said variable IP address from said at least one network unit,

9   [[and]] for transferring said unique identification information and said variable IP address,

10   and for receiving from a user unique identification information of a network unit selected by

11   the user, a database connected to said communication unit for receiving and storing said

12   variable IP address and said unique identification information transferred from said

13   communication unit, and a control unit connected to said communication unit and to said

14   database for receiving from the user via said communication unit said unique identification

15   information of said network unit selected by the user, for searching said database for said

16   variable IP address of said at least one network unit on the basis of the unique identification

17   information received from the user, and for enabling the user to gain access to said selected

18   network unit in accordance with results of the searching of said database;

19   wherein said unique identification information includes at least one of an Ethernet

20   address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address

21   of said at least one network unit.

      Claims 2-3. (Canceled)

1   4. (Currently Amended)   The network system as set forth in Claim [[3]] 1, wherein

2   said control unit receives said at least one of said Ethernet address, said identifier of said at

3   least one network unit[[,]] and said search keyword for said variable IP address of said at

4   least one network unit from the user over said network and via said communication unit,

5   compares said at least one of said Ethernet address, said identifier of said at least one

6   network unit[[,]] and said search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least one

7   network unit with data stored in said database to produce a match, and searches for said

8   variable IP address when the match is produced.

1   5. (Original) The network system as set forth in Claim 4, wherein said data stored in

2   said database is updated at regular time intervals.

3   Claim 6. (Canceled)

1   7. (Currently Amended)   A method of controlling a network system having a

2   dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server, an agent server, and at least one

3   network unit, said method comprising the steps of:

4   (a) requesting a variable Internet protocol (IP) address for said at least one network

5   unit from [[asid]] said DHCP server when said at least one network unit powers up;

6   (b) transmitting the requested variable IP address from said DHCP server to said at

7   least one network unit;

8   (c) storing unique identification information and the variable IP address of said at

9   least one network unit in a database in said agent server;

10   (d) receiving data at said agent server from a user over a network, comparing said

11   received data with said unique identification information stored in said database, and

12   searching for said variable IP address of said at least one network unit when said comparing

13   produces a match; and

14   (e) connecting the user to said at least one network unit having the searched variable

15   IP address;

16   said method further comprising the steps, between steps (b) and (c), of receiving said

17   unique identification information and said variable IP address of said at least one network

18   unit at said agent server, and transferring said unique identification information and said

19   variable IP address of said at least one network unit to said database in said agent server;

20   wherein said unique identification information includes at least one of an Ethernet

21   address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address

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22   of said at least one network unit.

        Claims 8-9. (Canceled)

1   10. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in Claim [[9]] 7, wherein said data

2   received in step (d) comprises at least one of said Ethernet address, said identifier of said at

3   least one network unit and said search keyword for said variable IP address of said at least

4   one network unit.

1   11. (Original)   The method as set forth in Claim 10, wherein data stored in said

2   database is updated at regular time intervals.

1   12. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in Claim [[9]] 7, wherein data

2   stored in said database is updated at regular time intervals.

1   13. (Currently Amended)   A network system comprising a dynamic host

2   configuration protocol (DHCP) server, an agent server, and at least one network unit having

3   a variable Internet protocol (IP) address assigned to said at least one network unit by said

4   DHCP server, and unique identification information, said agent server comprising:

5   a communication unit for receiving, from each said at least one network unit, said

6   variable IP address assigned to said at least one network unit by said DHCP server and said

7 unique identification for each said at least one network unit, and for receiving from a user

8 unique identification information for a network unit selected by the user;

9   storing means connected to said communication unit for receiving and storing said

10 variable IP address and said unique identification information for each said at least one

11 network unit; and

12   a control unit connected to said communication unit and to said storing means for

13 receiving the unique identification information for the network unit selected by the user, and

14 for searching said storing means for said variable IP address of said selected network unit

15 on the basis of the unique identification information received from the user, and responsive

16 to results produced by said searching for enabling the user to gain access to said selected

17 network unit;

18   wherein said storing means comprises a database, said communication unit

19 transferring said received unique identification information and said variable IP address to

20 said database; and

21   wherein said unique identification information includes at least one of an Ethernet

22 address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address

23 of said at least one network unit.

Claims 14-15. (Canceled)

1   16. (Currently Amended)   The network system as set forth in Claim [[15]] 13,

2   wherein said control unit receives, from the user, at least one of an Ethernet address, ~~an~~

3   ~~identifier~~ and a search keyword corresponding to the network unit selected by the user.

Claims 17-18. (Canceled)

1   19. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a network system having a

2   dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP) server, an agent server, and at least one

3   network unit, said method comprising the steps of:

4   (a) requesting a variable Internet protocol (IP) address for said at least one network

5   unit from [[asid]] said DHCP server when said at least one network unit powers up;

6   (b) transmitting the requested variable IP address from said DHCP server to said at

7   least one network unit;

8   (c) storing unique identification information and the variable IP address of each said

9   at least one network unit in a database in said agent server;

10   (d) receiving at said agent server, from a user, unique identification information

11   corresponding to a network unit selected by the user;

12   (e) comparing said unique identification information received from the user with said

13   unique identification information stored in said database;

14   (f) determining said variable IP address of said network unit selected by the user when

15   step (e) produces a match; and

16   (g) connecting the user to said selected network unit having the determined variable

17   IP address;

18   wherein said unique identification information includes at least one of an Ethernet

19   address of said at least one network unit and a search keyword for said variable IP address

20   of said at least one network unit.

      Claim 20. (Canceled)

1   21. (Currently Amended)   The method as set forth in Claim [[20]] 19, wherein the

2   unique identification information received from the user in step (d) comprises at least one

3   of [[said]] an Ethernet address, said identifier and [[said]] a search keyword corresponding

4   to the network unit selected by the user.

1   22. (Original)   The method as set forth in Claim 21, wherein said data stored in said

2   database is updated at regular time intervals.

      Claims 23-24. (Canceled)